

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-10 HEW-06 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05 OES-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7868

UNCLAS GENEVA 0681

PASS QUENTIN JONES (USDA, BELTSVILLE) AND J.P. SMITH (NIDA)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, UN

SUBJECT: FEASIBILITY OF CONVERTING THEBAINE INTO DRUGS OF ABUSE

REF: GENEVA 0256

1. LUMSDEN, UN NARCOTICS LABORATORY, ADVISES THAT EXPERT GROUP, CONVENED JAN 26-30, TO STUDY FEASIBILITY OF CONVERTING THEBAINE INTO DRUGS OF ABUSE AND POTENTIAL ABUSE REACHED CONCLUSIONS SET FORTH BELOW. FULL TEXT OF REPORT, WHICH WILL BE REPRODUCED NEXT WEEK, BEING POUCHED.

2. TEXT OF CONCLUSIONS:

QUOTE 31. THE EXPERT GROUP CONCLUDED THAT, AS LONG AS THE SUPPLY OF ILLICIT OPIUM AND MORPHINE IS AVAILABLE, THE CHOICE OF DRUG FOR ABUSE IS HEROIN. IT ALSO REQUIRES LITTLE SKILL IN PREPARATION.

"32. SHOULD THE USUAL SOURCES FOR HEROIN PRODUCTION DIS-APPEAR, IT IS LIKELY THAT THERE WOULD BE ILLICIT MANUFACTURE OF OTHER DRUGS OF ABUSE IN ORDER TO SATISFY THE DEMAND. HAVING EVALUATED THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE POSSIBLE USE OF THEBAINE IN THE PRODUCTION OF DRUGS OF ABUSE OR POTENTIAL ABUSE, THE GROUP CONSIDERS THAT THESE ARE NOT SUCH THAT THEY SHOULD PREJUDICE THE PRODUCTION

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OF THIS ALKALOID AND ITS USE AS A COMMERCIAL SOURCE OF

CODEINE. IT WAS CONCLUDED THAT, SHOULD HEROIN CEASE TO BE AVAILABLE, IT WOULD BE MOST LIKELY TO BE REPLACED BY CERTAIN WHOLLY SYNTHETIC MATERIALS WHOSE POTENCY, PHARMACOLOGICAL EFFECTS AND EASE OF PREPARATION FROM UNCONTROLLED MATERIALS WOULD MAKE THEM MORE ATTRACTIVE TO ILLICIT OPERATORS THAN COMPOUNDS PREPARABLE FROM THEBAINE.

"33. NEVERTHELESS, SOME OF THE THEBAINE DERIVATIVES SHOW SUCH A HIGH DEGREE OF ADDICTION LIABILITY THAT THE PRESENT CONTROL UNDER THE 1961 CONVENTION SHOULD BE MAINTAINED AND ANY CULTIVATION OF P. BRACTEATUM AND OTHER PLANTS PRODUCING THEBAINE SHOULD BE CONTROLLED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO AVOID ANY LEAKAGE OF THEBAINE INTO THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC. DURING THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONTROL MEASURES THE POSSIBILITY OF CULTIVATION OF OTHER PAPAVER SPECIES CONTAINING THEBAINE OR OTHER PAPAVER ALKALOIDS, SUCH AS SALUTARIDINE, SHOULD ALSO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. END QUOTEDALE

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## Message Attributes

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